



Cambridge Police Department BridgeStat

April 2022

Produced by the Crime Analysis Unit



Part I Total Crime

Analysis indicates that, with but two additional incidents reported over the first four months of 2022 when the Part One index total for Cambridge is compared with the same time period of 2021, that no percentage change (0%) was reported. Through May 2nd of this year, there were 758 serious crimes reported in the City. For the same time period in 2021, the combined total for Murder, Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Larceny & Auto theft was 756 incidents. When measured against the five-year average, a 9% increase in the crime index has been recorded.

Further analysis of the crime totals for the first 17 weeks of 2022 reveals that violent crimes spiraled upward 24% when compared with 2021, with 21 additional crimes counted. Property crime decreased 3% with 19 fewer crimes reported when compared through May 2nd of 2021. There were zero homicides, 12 rapes, 36 robberies and 59 aggravated assaults reported over the first four months of 2022.

Street robberies spiked from 9 incidents to 31 crimes and housebreaks from 33 reports to 65 incidents when comparing the first 17 weeks of 2022 with that of the same time frame last year. The 47% decrease in larcenies of bicycles and the 40% drop in thefts from residences when compared with the first four months of 2021 are some of the key trend indicators observed so far in 2022 that kept the overall crime index percentage unchanged.

When analyzing the serious crime totals of April of 2022 versus the previous month of March, there has been a decrease of 6% in the number of index incidents with 13 fewer crimes reported, the driving force being housebreaks falling 39% with seven fewer incidents reported during April.

	<u>4 Week Snapshot</u>			<u>Year to Date</u>			<u>Five Year</u>	
	3/8/22 - 4/4/22	4/5/22 - 5/2/22	Change	2021	2022	Change	Avg	Change
Total Violent Crime	34	29	-15%	86	107	24%	83	29%
Total Property Crime	169	161	-5%	670	651	-3%	615	6%
Total Part I Crime	203	190	-6%	756	758	0%	698	9%



Part I Property Crime

Analysis of property crime totals for the first four months of 2022 points to a 3% decline when measured against the 2021 totals and a 6% tick above the five-year average, with 19 fewer incidents below the total for the first 17 weeks of last year and 36 crimes above the forecasted number of 615.

Three of the major property crime categories recorded significant declines when measured against the first four months of 2021, primarily a 47% reduction in larceny of bicycles, which was down 72 incidents from the high total of 154 bike thefts during the cold weather months that occurred at the start of last year. Larceny from the residence also registered a sharp drop of 40% for the first 17 weeks of the year.

	<u>4 Week Snapshot</u>			<u>Year to Date</u>			<u>Five Year</u>	
	3/8/22 - 4/4/22	4/5/22 - 5/2/22	Change	2021	2022	Change	Avg	Change
Burglary	22	17	-23%	57	81	42%	63	29%
Commercial Break	4	6	50%	24	16	-33%	18	-11%
Housebreak	18	11	-39%	33	65	97%	45	44%
Larceny	142	136	-4%	587	538	-8%	527	2%
Larceny (Misc)	5	3	-40%	12	22	83%	11	100%
Larceny from Building	18	14	-22%	36	70	94%	68	3%
Larceny from MV	35	36	3%	142	149	5%	100	49%
Larceny from Person	10	14	40%	25	35	40%	37	-5%
Larceny from Residence	22	16	-27%	146	88	-40%	109	-19%
Larceny of Bicycle	25	30	20%	154	82	-47%	96	-15%
Larceny of Plate	1	1	0%	9	6	-33%	6	0%
Larceny of Services	2	1	-50%	1	6	500%	4	50%
Shoplifting	24	21	-13%	62	80	29%	96	-17%
Auto Theft	5	8	60%	26	32	23%	25	28%
Total Property Crime	169	161	-5%	670	651	-3%	615	6%



Part I Violent Crime

From January 1st to May 2nd of 2022, there were 107 violent crimes recorded in Cambridge, 21 more (+24%) than first four months in 2021, and 24 additional violent crimes (+29%) above the 83 incidents forecasted for the first 17 weeks of the year.

There were 12 rapes reported in Cambridge during the first four months of 2022, while there were seven recorded during the same time period in 2021. The trend observed during Covid of a high percentage of aggravated assaults occurring in the 500 to 600 block of Mass Ave in Central Square has continued in 2022 with 22 of the 58 citywide reports occurring in this area. The street robbery total has climbed from nine incidents over the first four months of 2021 to 31 (+244%) through May 2nd of 2022. This total is also 20 incidents above the forecasted total of 11 street robberies for this time period.

The last murder in Cambridge took place on March 27th, 2021. In that incident, a fatal shooting occurred at approximately 12:40 a.m. on Pemberton Street. The victim was reportedly located unconscious outside his vehicle by a passerby who called 911. The victim was transported to Mount Auburn Hospital where he later died. The victim has been identified as Xavier Louis-Jacques, 19, of Cambridge. The investigation is ongoing.

	4 Week Snapshot			Year to Date			Five Year	
	3/8/22 - 4/4/22	4/5/22 - 5/2/22	Change	2021	2022	Change	Avg	Change
Homicide	0	0	IN-CALC	1	0	IN-CALC	1	-100%
Rape	6	2	-67%	7	12	71%	7	71%
Robbery	10	9	-10%	14	36	157%	17	112%
Commercial Robbery	0	2	IN-CALC	5	5	0%	6	-17%
Street Robbery	10	7	-30%	9	31	244%	11	182%
Aggravated Assault	18	18	0%	64	59	-8%	59	0%
Total Violent Crime	34	29	-15%	86	107	24%	83	29%



MURDER

No Patterns

- Thirteen months ago, on Saturday 3/27/21, there was a fatal shooting that occurred at approximately 12:40 a.m. on Pemberton Street. The victim was reportedly located unconscious outside his vehicle by a passerby who called 911. The victim was transported to Mount Auburn Hospital where he later died. The victim has been identified as Xavier Louis-Jacques, 19, of Cambridge. The investigation is ongoing. Zero murders in Cambridge since this incident
- On April 23, 2020, Jose Bermudez was arrested for the fatal daylight stabbing of 33-year-old Danilo Perez in Central Square on April 14. Bermudez and Perez were both part of the homeless community and were known to each other. Bermudez is being held without bail. This was the first homicide reported in Cambridge since January of 2019 and it ended up being the only homicide recorded in 2020.
- There was one murder in Cambridge in 2019. The Middlesex DA's Office and the Cambridge Police are asking for public assistance regarding the ongoing investigation into the fatal incident that occurred in the New Street area of Danehy Park around 6:30PM on the night of January 2nd, 2019. This incident is being investigated as a homicide. The preliminary investigation suggests that the victim, 60-year-old Paul Wilson, died as a result of blunt force trauma and that robbery does not appear to have been the motive.

Percent Change*

Last 4 Weeks

0%

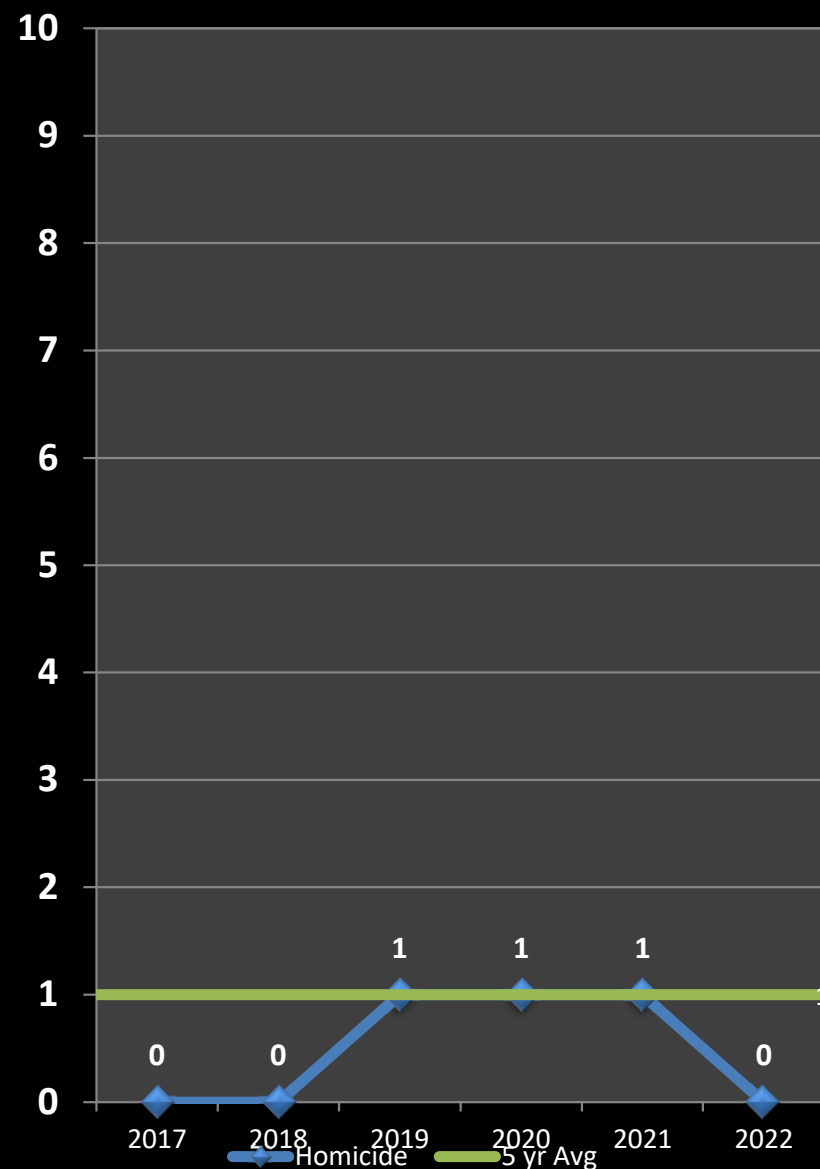
Previous Year

-100%

5-Year Average

-100%

*IN -CAL: Percentages are not calculated for numbers so small as to present a statistically misleading percentage.





Characteristics of Murder in Cambridge

For the 30-year period between 1960 and 1989, the City of Cambridge averaged slightly less than five murders per year. The annual average since 1990 has fallen to approximately two per year. Trend analysis over recent years points to two recurring murder scenarios in Cambridge: domestic murder, in which one family member is brutally killed by another in a homicidal rage, and the murder of young males by a handgun or knife in acts of retaliatory street violence.

Cambridge Murder Statistics, 1990-2021

- 64 people murdered in 59 incidents (in 4 of the incidents, 2 or more people were killed)
- 44 victims were male
- 20 victims were female
- Most common weapons: handguns (30 incidents) and knives (14 incidents)
- 20 of the 59 cases are still under investigation or remain unsolved
- 27 of the 38 cases since 2000 have been cleared by arrest or by the death of the suspect.



RAPE

No Patterns

- There were 12 rapes reported in Cambridge during the first four months of 2022, while there were seven incidents reported through May 2nd in 2021. The 12 rapes so far in 2022 have been categorized as five acquaintance incidents, four blitz scenarios, a domestic incident and and two contact assaults. One of the blitz incidents did result in an arrest.
- Final counts indicate that there were 36 rapes reported in 2021, nine more than were reported in 2020. That total was also nine incidents above the five-year average of 27 crimes.
- The sexual assaults in 2021 were classified as 11 domestic situations, 17 involving acquaintances as the predator, five contact incidents, and three blitz scenarios that remain under investigation.
- The total number of reported rapes tends to fluctuate from year to year, but the number of stranger-to-stranger rapes reported each year in Cambridge—typically between one and five—remains extremely low.

Percent Change*

Last 4 Weeks

-67%

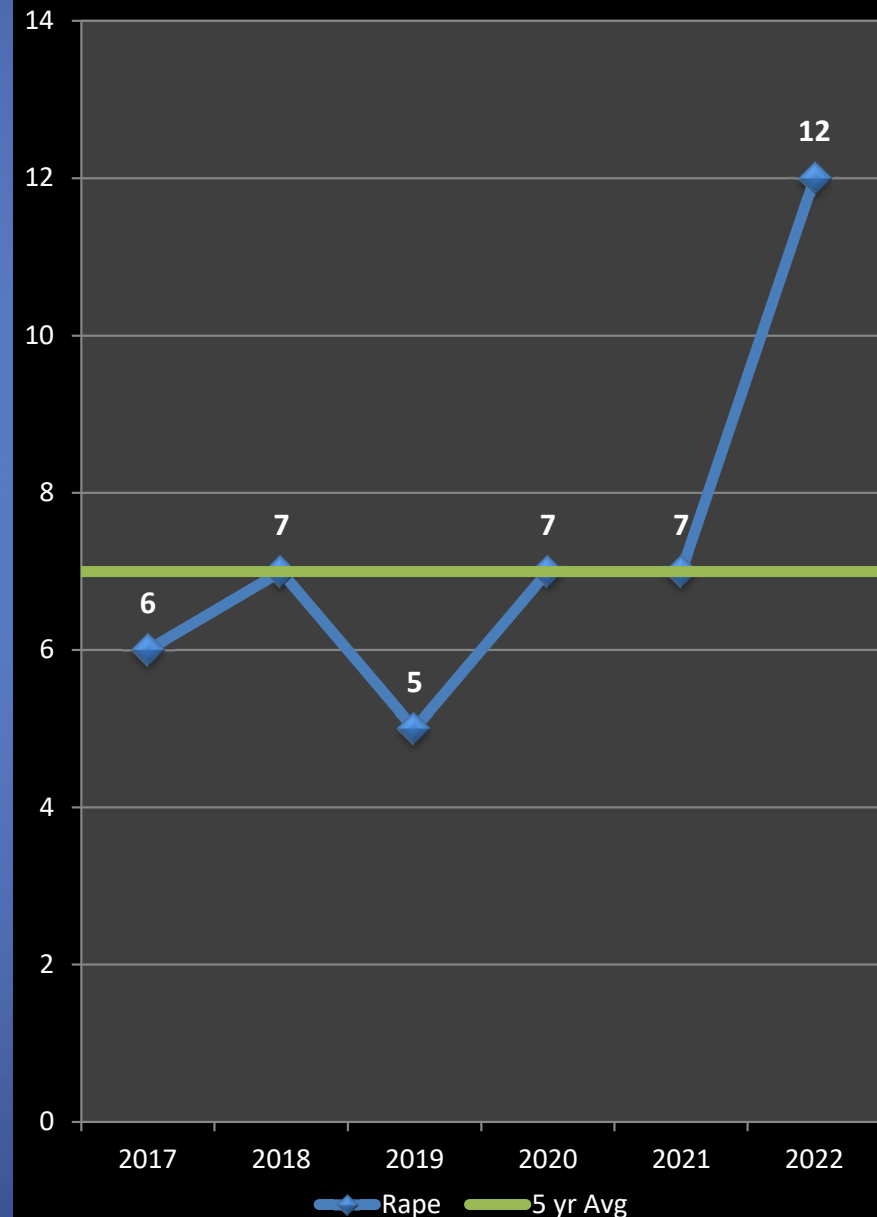
Previous Year

+71%

5-Year Average

+71%

*IN -CAL: Percentages are not calculated for numbers so small as to present a statistically misleading percentage.





AGGRAVATED ASSAULT

No Patterns

- The total of 59 aggravated assaults reported through May 2nd of 2022 was five crimes (-8%) under the total for the first four months of 2021, and even with the forecast of 59 crimes for the five-year average.
- The 59 aggravated assaults reported over the first four months of this year were composed of the following classifications: 13 domestic altercations; 9 unprovoked scenarios; 6 juvenile-related assaults; 5 psychotic episodes; 5 shop owner/patron assaults; 4 assaults between unhoused individuals; 4 assault between acquaintance; 2 road rage; 3 assaults on police officers; 2 workplace; 2 affray; 2 drug deals that went awry; 1 landlord/ neighbor assault and 1 bar/alcohol.
- The trend observed during the Covid period of a high percentage of aggravated assaults occurring in and around the periphery of Central Square has continued in 2022 with 22 of the 59 citywide reports in this area.
- There have been four confirmed shots fired incidents in Cambridge through May 2, 2022, none of which resulted in gunshot wounds. Through the same time period in 2021, there were two shots fired incidents and two shootings with injuries reported in Cambridge (including the last recorded homicide). See map on slide 10 for more info.

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

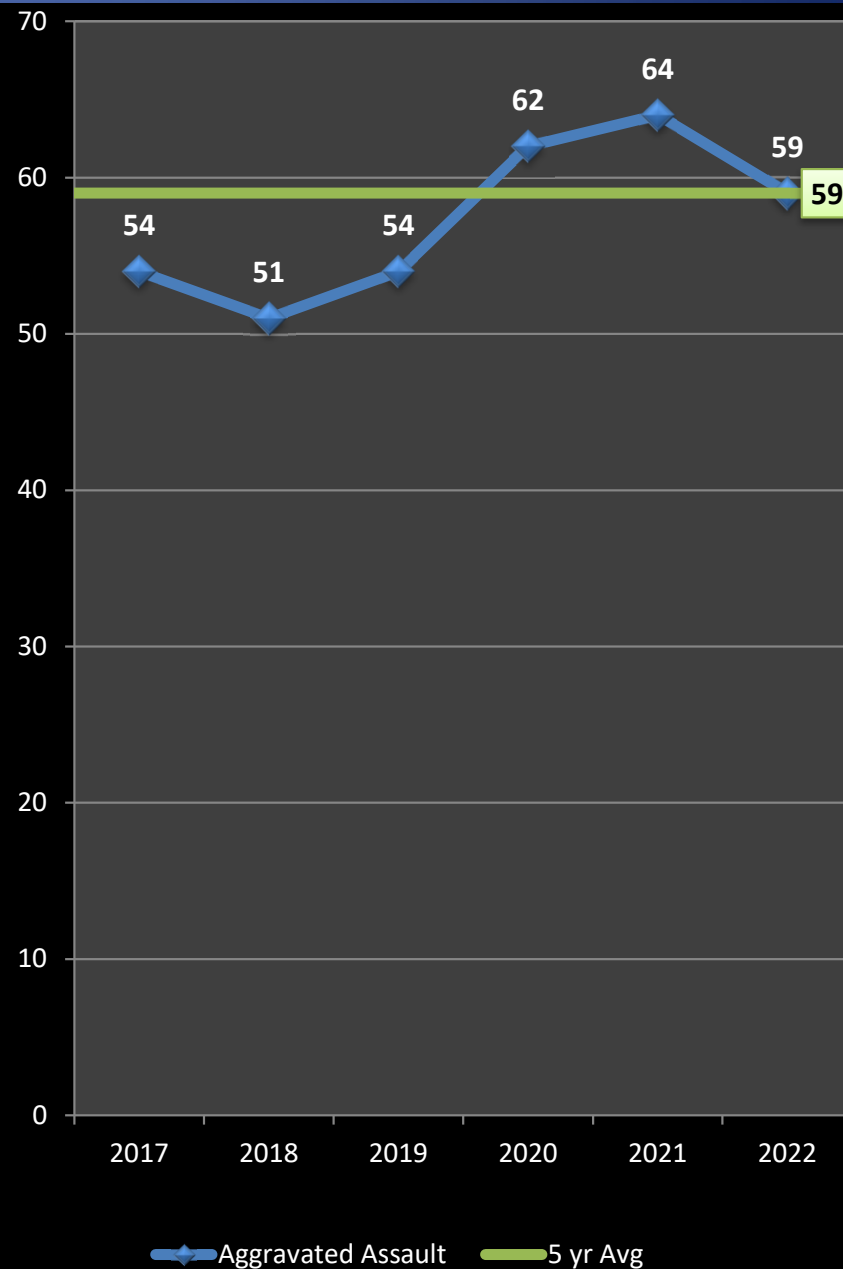
0%

Previous Year

-8%

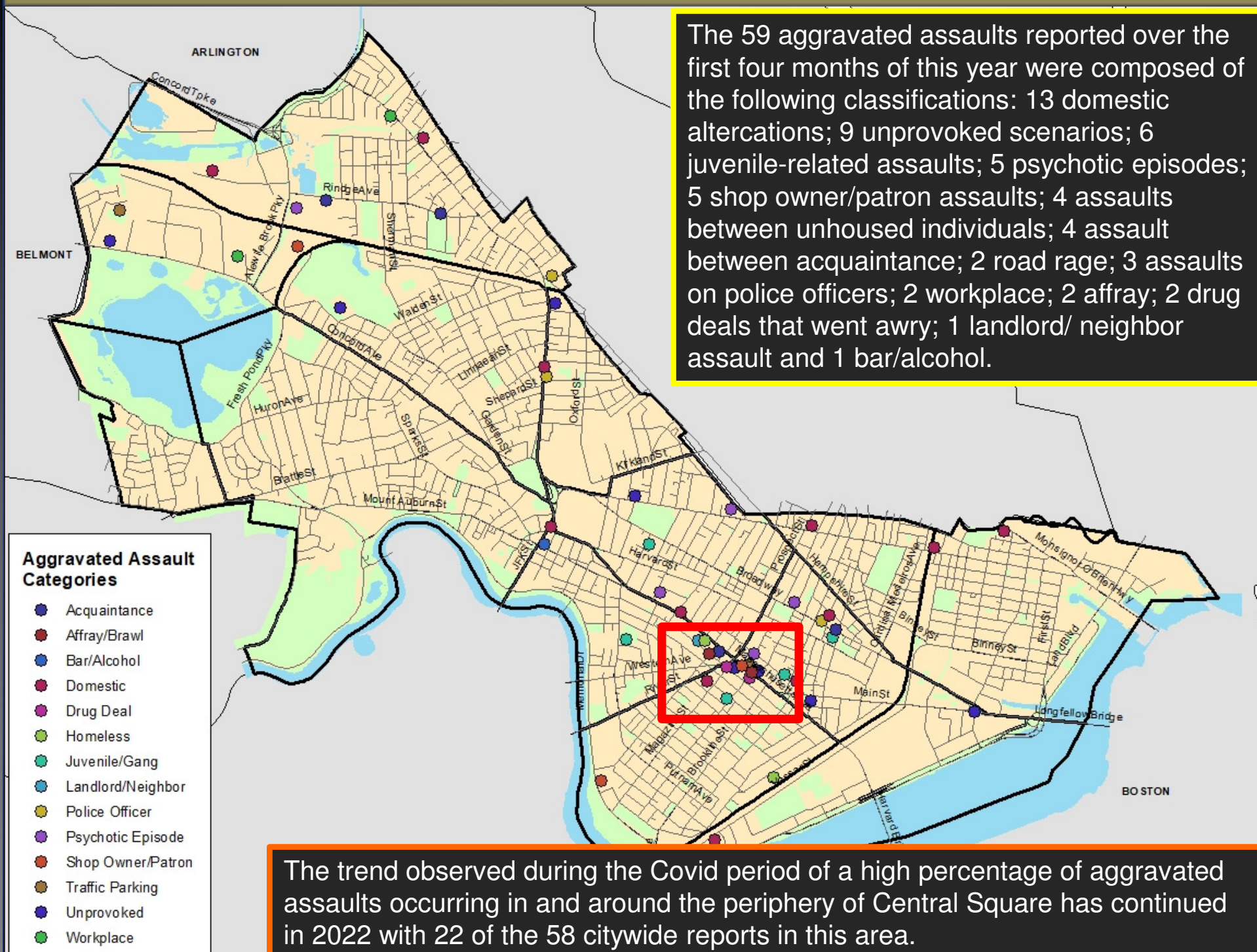
5-Year Average

0%





Geographic Breakdown of Aggravated Assault: 1.1.22 – 5.2.22





Confirmed Shots Fired and Shootings in Cambridge: 1.1.22 – 5.2.22

There have been four confirmed shots fired incidents in Cambridge through 5.02.22, none of which resulted in gunshot wounds. Through the same time period in 2021, there were two shots fired incidents and two shootings with injuries reported in Cambridge (including the last recorded homicide).

Shots Fired on 2.15 at 7:20pm
Windsor St & Harvard St
ShotSpotter alert. Multiple shell casings recovered. No injuries reported.

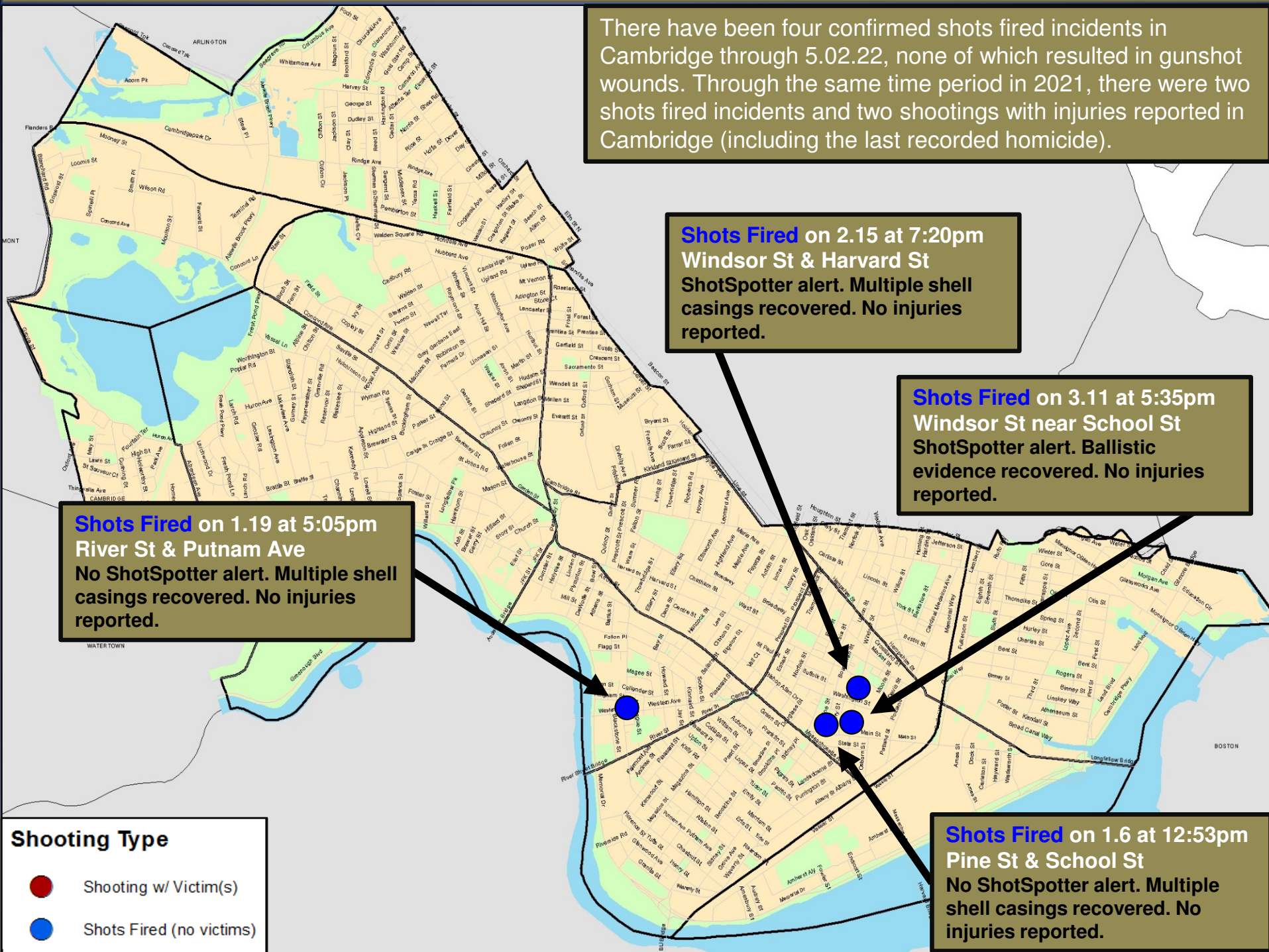
Shots Fired on 3.11 at 5:35pm
Windsor St near School St
ShotSpotter alert. Ballistic evidence recovered. No injuries reported.

Shots Fired on 1.19 at 5:05pm
River St & Putnam Ave
No ShotSpotter alert. Multiple shell casings recovered. No injuries reported.

Shots Fired on 1.6 at 12:53pm
Pine St & School St
No ShotSpotter alert. Multiple shell casings recovered. No injuries reported.

Shooting Type

- Shooting w/ Victim(s)
- Shots Fired (no victims)





Robbery

No Patterns

- The five-year average for overall robbery in Cambridge for the first four months of the year is 17 incidents. Through May 2nd of 2022, 36 robberies were recorded, which translates to a 112% increase above the projected total and a 157% spike above the 14 robberies counted for the first 17 weeks of 2021.
- There have been five commercial robberies committed in Cambridge over the first 17 weeks of this year, in line with 2021 reports. These incidents include: two crimes at a Memorial Drive gas station – one with an implied handgun, the other a strongarm rifling of the register—a shoplifting at the CambridgeSide Shopping Center that escalated into a robbery when the assailant threatened the clerk with a bat, and two bank robberies at the same bank in Harvard Square. The first took place on April 27th and the second on May 2nd, both involving a male note-passer. At this time, it is unknown if the suspect is the same in both instances.
- The street robbery total leaped from nine incidents over the first four months of last year to 31 (+150%) through May 2nd of 2022. This total is 20 incidents above the forecasted total of 11 street robberies for the first four months of the year. Fifteen of these street robberies have been concentrated in and around the periphery of Central Square, continuing a trend that emerged over the last few months of 2021. Otherwise, no discernable patterns have emerged with this increase.

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

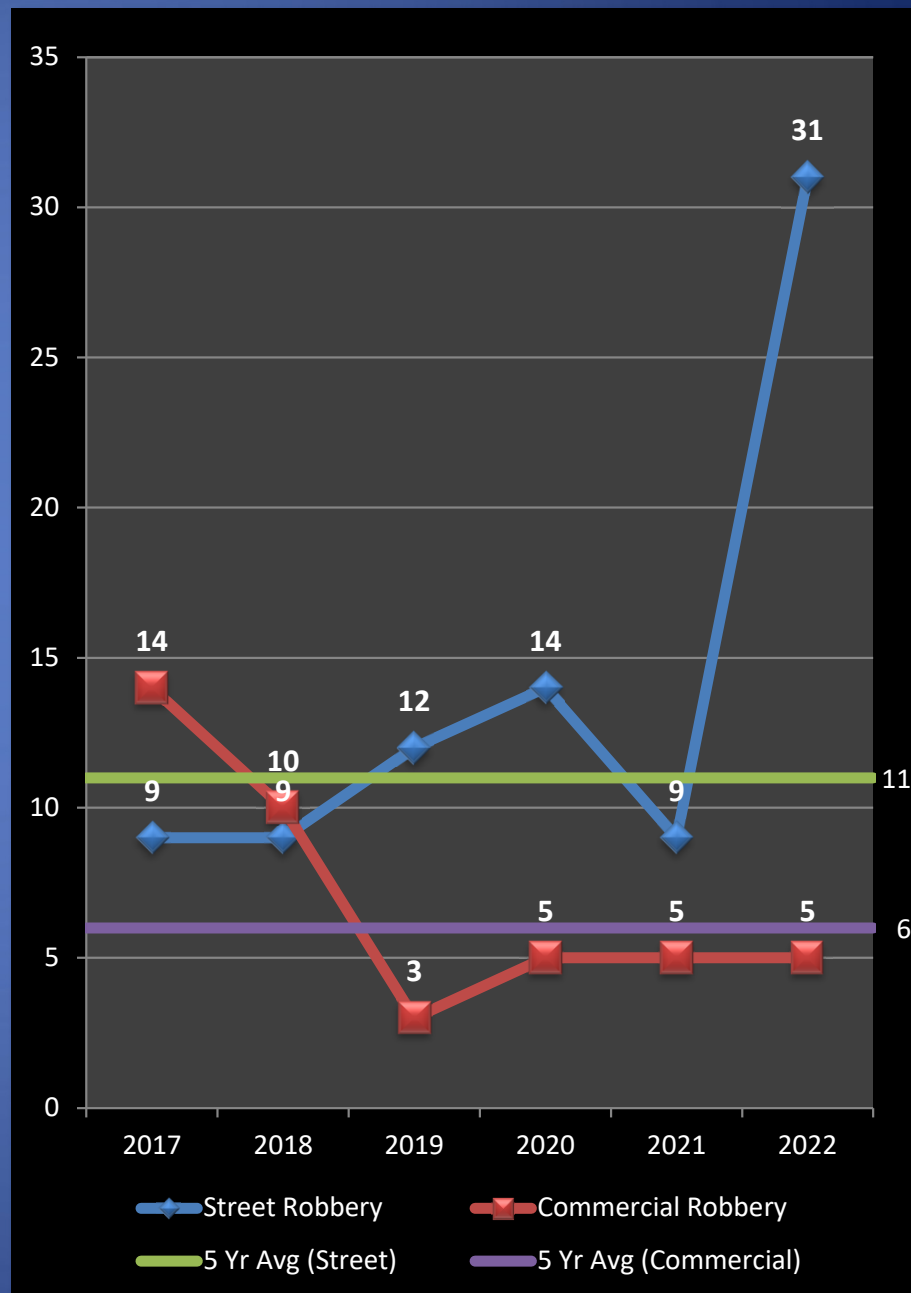
-10%

Previous Year

+157%

5-Year Average

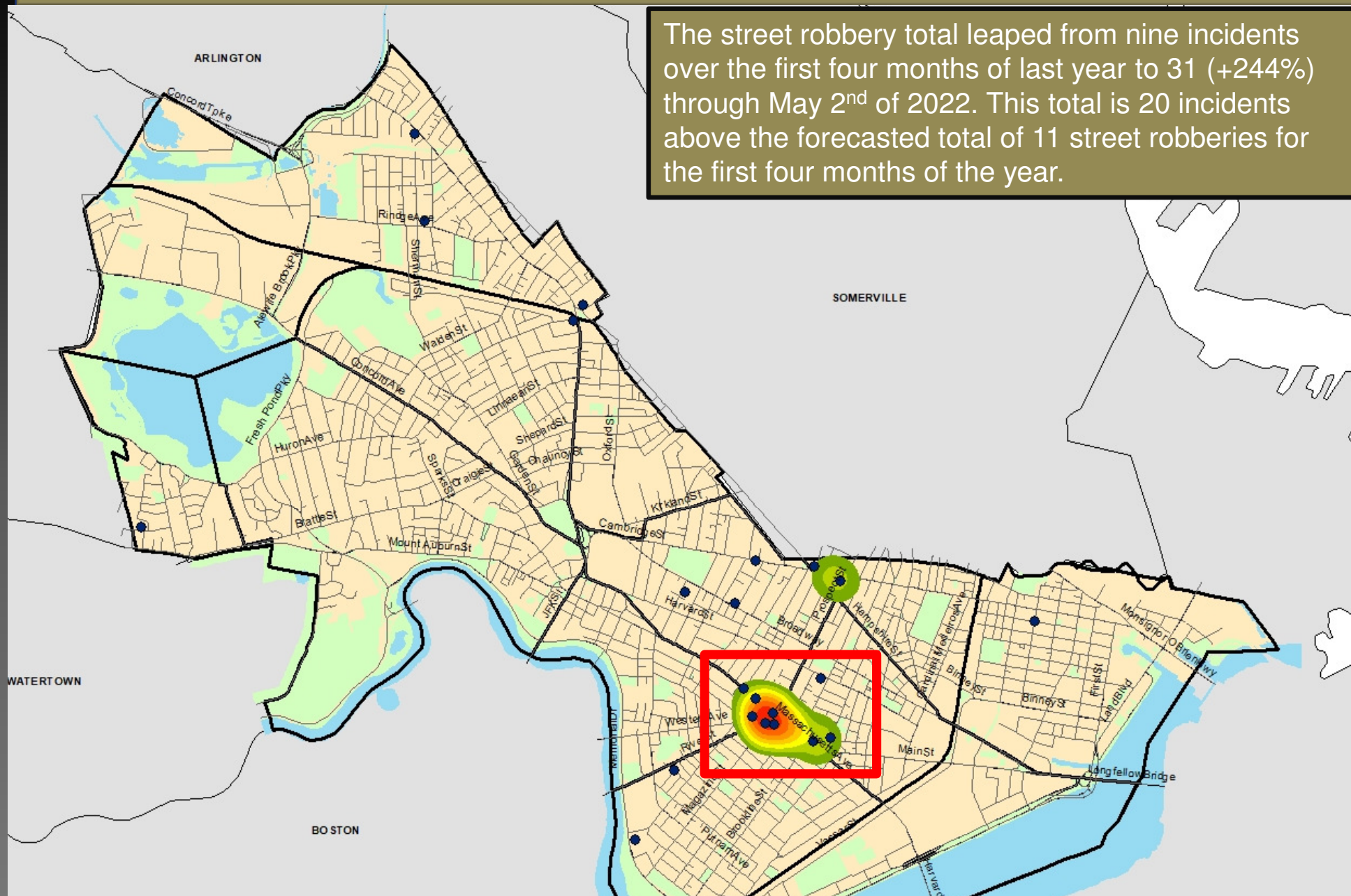
+112%





Geographic Breakdown of Street Robberies: 1.1.22 – 5.2.22

The street robbery total leaped from nine incidents over the first four months of last year to 31 (+244%) through May 2nd of 2022. This total is 20 incidents above the forecasted total of 11 street robberies for the first four months of the year.



Central Square has seen the highest concentration of activity in 2022 with 16 of the 31 street robberies having taken place in this business district. The circumstances around the robberies runs the gamut from unhoused parties targeting one another, to a carjacking, to an ATM robbery.



Burglary

No Patterns

- The property index crime of burglary, the combination of residential and commercial breaks, has recorded a marked increase of 29% over the first four months of 2022 when compared to the five-year average, with 18 additional incidents reported above the projected total of 63 breaks. When compared with last year's low total of 57 incidents through May 2nd, a 42% increase has been registered (up 24 incidents in 2022).
- Housebreaks through May 2nd in 2022 have risen 97% over the first four months of 2021, with 65 incidents reported this year compared to the 33 recorded over the first 17 weeks of 2021. There was a measured decrease in housebreaks from March to April of this year with seven fewer incidents reported. Currently, there are no active housebreak patterns in the City.
- There have been 16 commercial breaks reported in the first four months of 2022, with six recorded in April. After nearly 18 months registering increases during the Covid period, this target crime is registering a decrease of 33% below last year's total with eight fewer incidents.

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

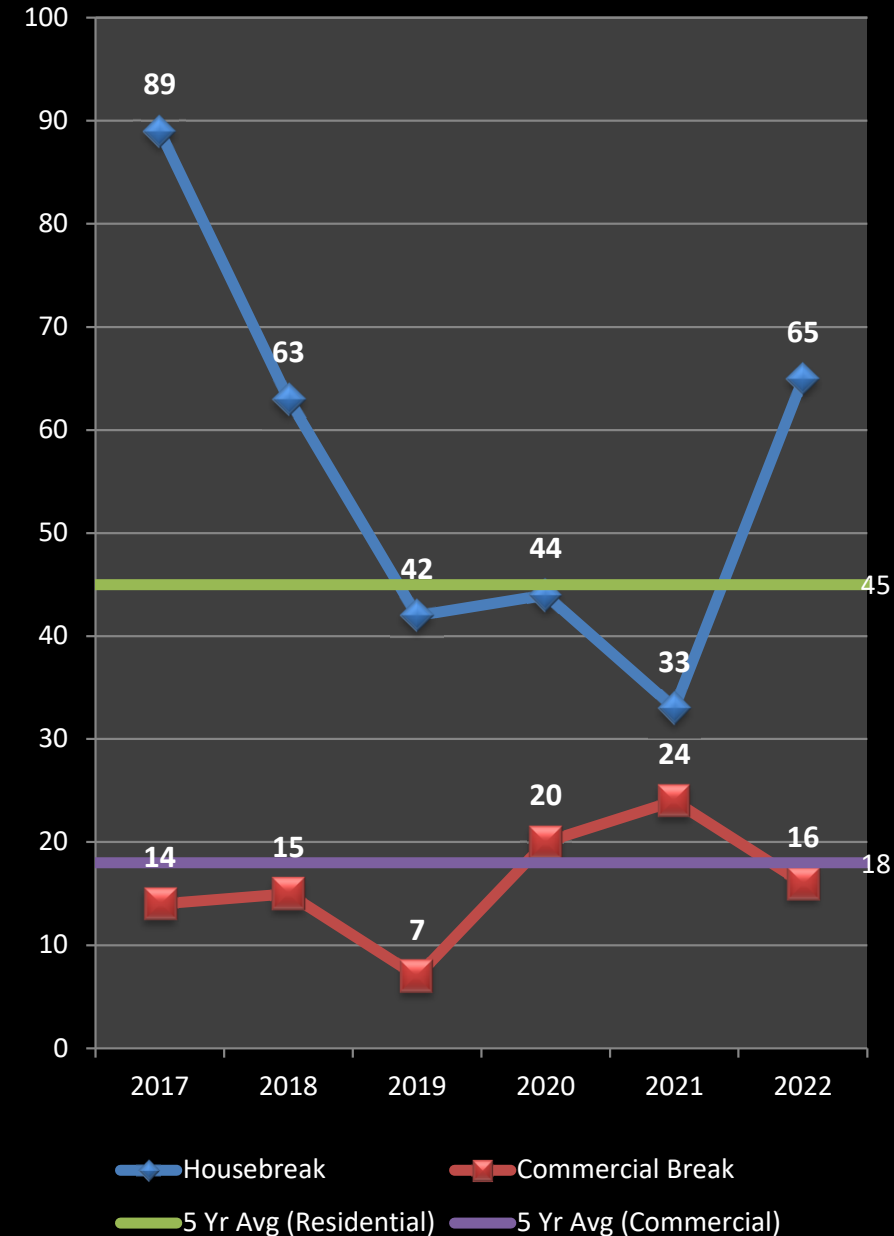
-23%

Previous Year

+42%

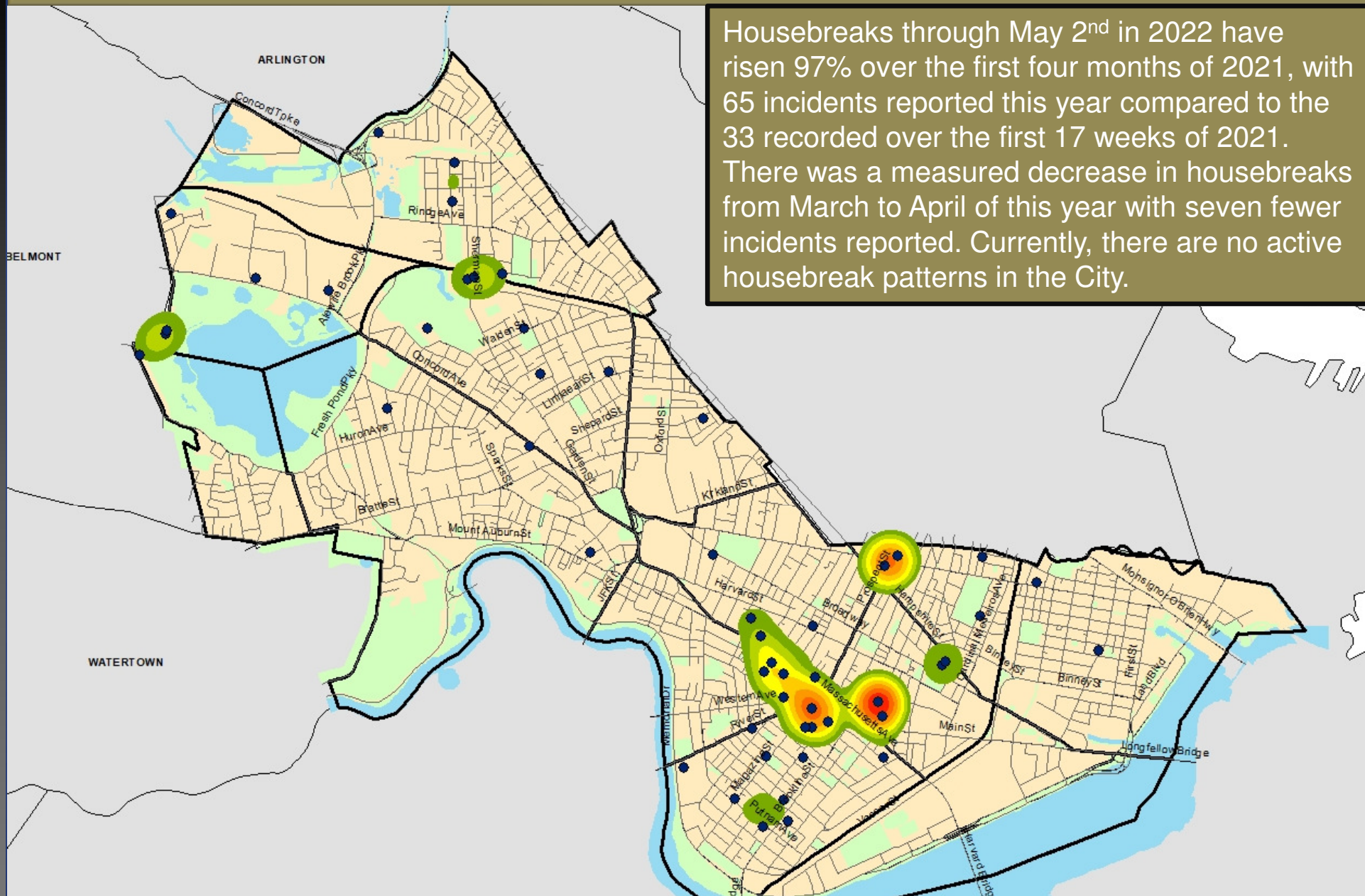
5-Year Average

+29%





Geographic Breakdown of Housebreaks: 1.1.22 – 5.2.22

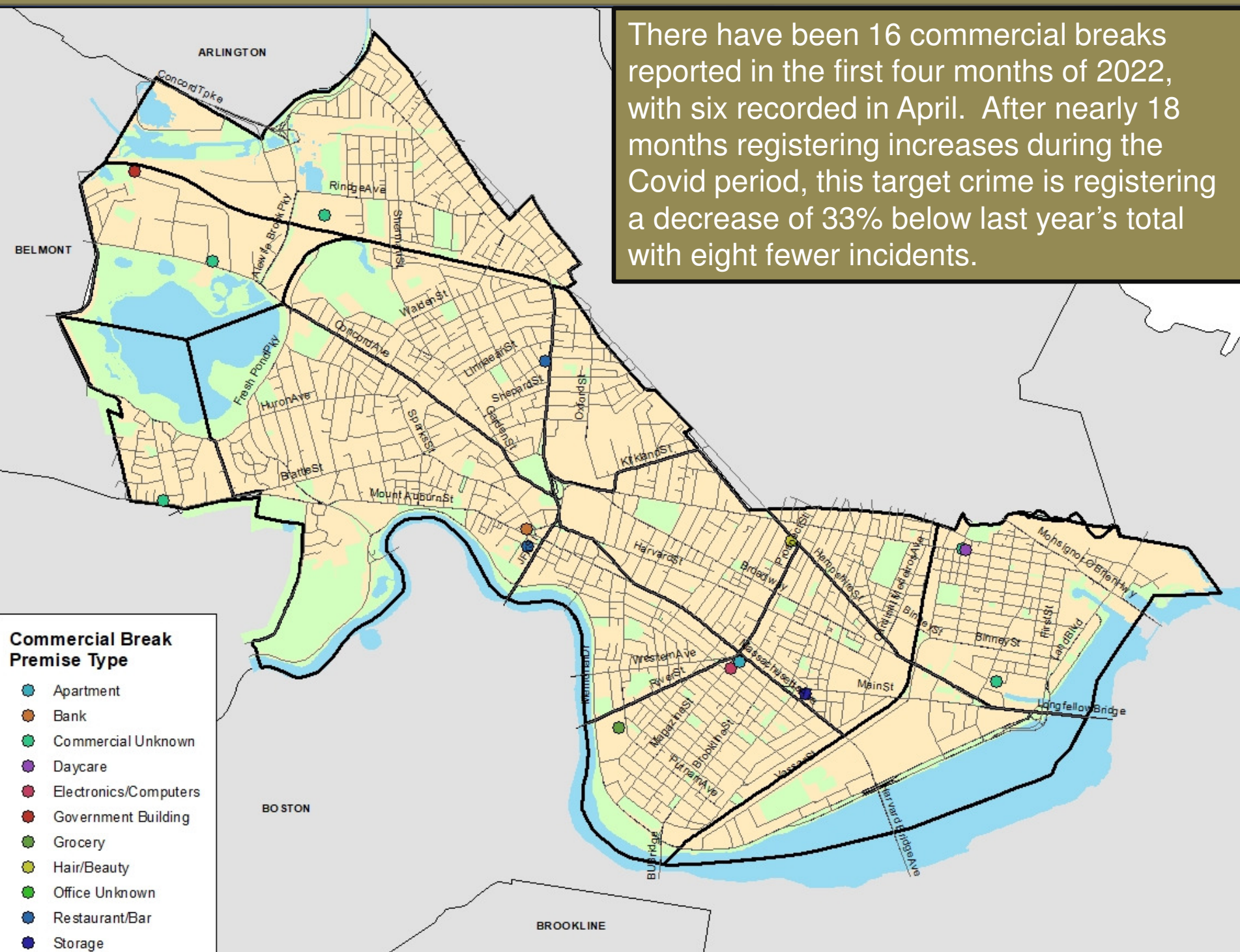


The highest concentration of housebreaks has been in Cambridgeport and Riverside with the majority of these incidents occurring during February and March, with only four breaks recorded in these areas over the past five weeks. Close to 70% of the housebreaks over the first four months of the year were committed in the lower half of the City below Harvard Square.



Geographic Breakdown of Commercial Breaks: 1.1.22 – 5.2.22

There have been 16 commercial breaks reported in the first four months of 2022, with six recorded in April. After nearly 18 months registering increases during the Covid period, this target crime is registering a decrease of 33% below last year's total with eight fewer incidents.





LARCENY

Sporadic Pattern

- **Preliminary stats indicate that overall larceny in 2022 is registering at 538 incidents, 8% below the same time frame in 2021.** The total larcenies reported year-to-date in 2022 is also 2% above the 5-year average of 527 incidents.
- **The larceny from motor vehicle total through May 2nd, 2022, is 149 incidents, 5% above the same time frame in 2021.** The 149 thefts reported represent an increase of 49 incidents (+49%) above the number forecasted for 2022. Much of this upsurge can be attributed to the continuing trend of catalytic converter thefts.
- **Through May 2, 2022, there were 35 larcenies from the person reported in Cambridge, up ten incidents (40%) when compared to the same time period in 2021.** The 2022 total is down 5% from the 5-year average of 37, likely due to lingering effects from the pandemic. Central Sq has seen the most activity this year with 19 incidents.
- **There were 70 larcenies from buildings reported through the first four months of 2022.** This total is 94% (34 incidents) above the same time frame in 2021 and is 2 incidents (3%) above the 5-year average. With gyms and public buildings reopening to the public in 2022, it is expected that there will be an increase in this activity when compared to the past two years.
- **Larcenies from residences are down 58 incidents (40%) in 2022 when compared with 2021.** Package thefts made up the majority of this crime in recent years and registered even higher than average in 2020 and 2021, likely due to the increased volume of deliveries during the pandemic. Package thefts have accounted for 56 (or 64%) of the 88 larcenies from residences thus far in 2022.
- **Larceny of bicycles is typically one of the major property crimes in the city. However, currently there have only been 82 bike thefts reported in 2022, which is 47% less than the same time frame in 2021.** Bike thefts are also down 19% (21 thefts) below the five-year average. Part of this decrease is likely due to the colder snowier weather in 2022.

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

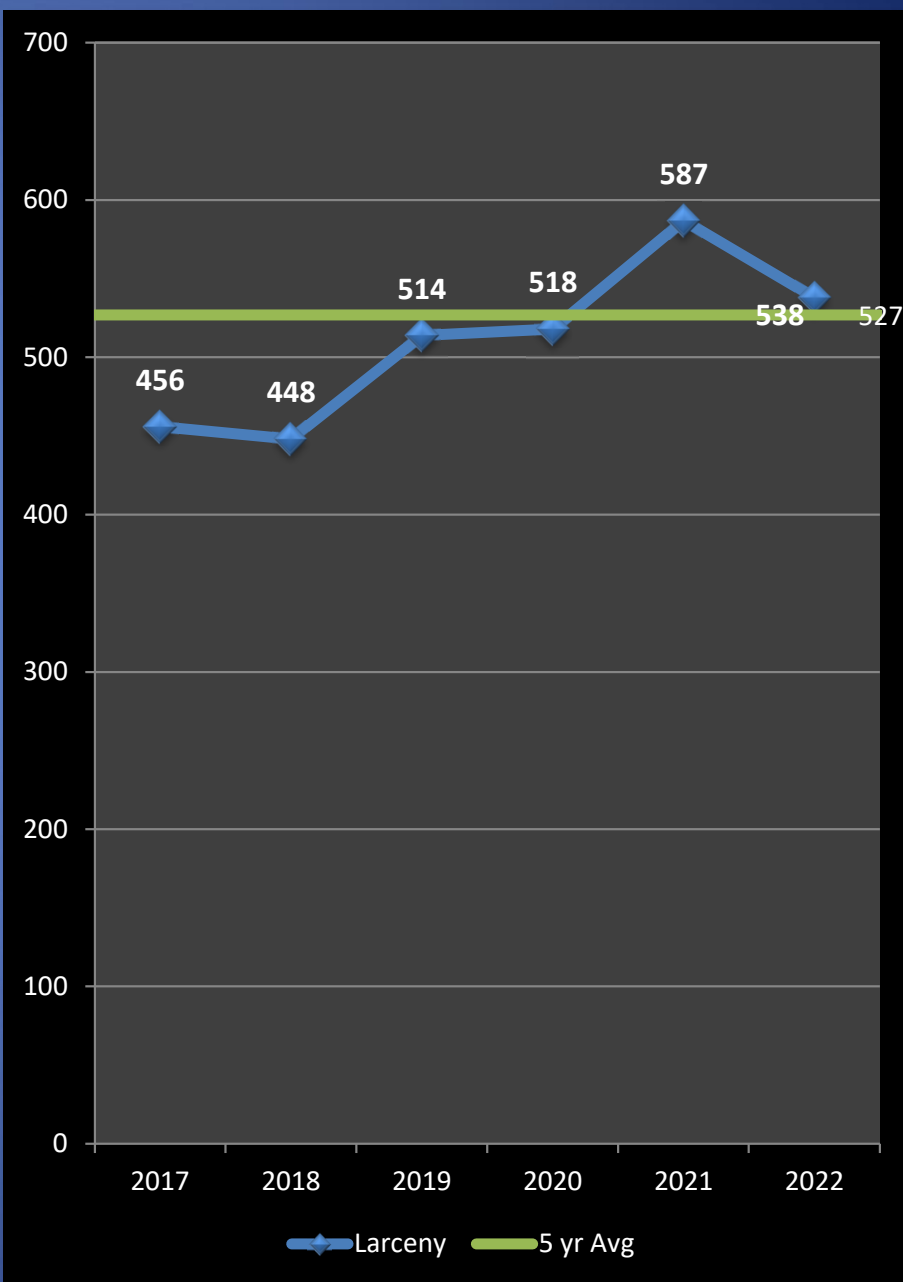
-4%

Previous Year

-8%

5-Year Average

+2%





LARCENY From MV

Sporadic Pattern

- The larceny from motor vehicle total through May 2nd, 2022, is 149 incidents, which is 5% above the total for the same time period in 2021. The 149 thefts from cars reported thus far in 2022 also indicates an increase of 49 crimes (+49%) above the number forecasted through the first 17 weeks of 2022.
- The neighborhoods with the highest larceny from motor vehicle totals so far in 2022 are: North Cambridge (29), Mid Cambridge (22), West Cambridge (20) and Peabody (19).
- Catalytic converter thefts became a problem in Cambridge when a series of thefts were reported by residents primarily in the Cambridgeport neighborhood in January of 2021. Surges continued sporadically throughout the year with the pattern resurfacing over the final two months of 2021, with 25 additional thefts reported in Riverside, North Cambridge, Peabody, and West Cambridge. In 2022, catalytic converter thefts have continued with an additional 55 incidents reported. The majority of the catalytic converter thefts in Cambridge have involved 2004-2009 Toyota Priuses, along with a few Honda Elements and CR-Vs. The highest concentration has been in the northern part of Cambridge—see the map on the next slide for a visual interpretation.

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

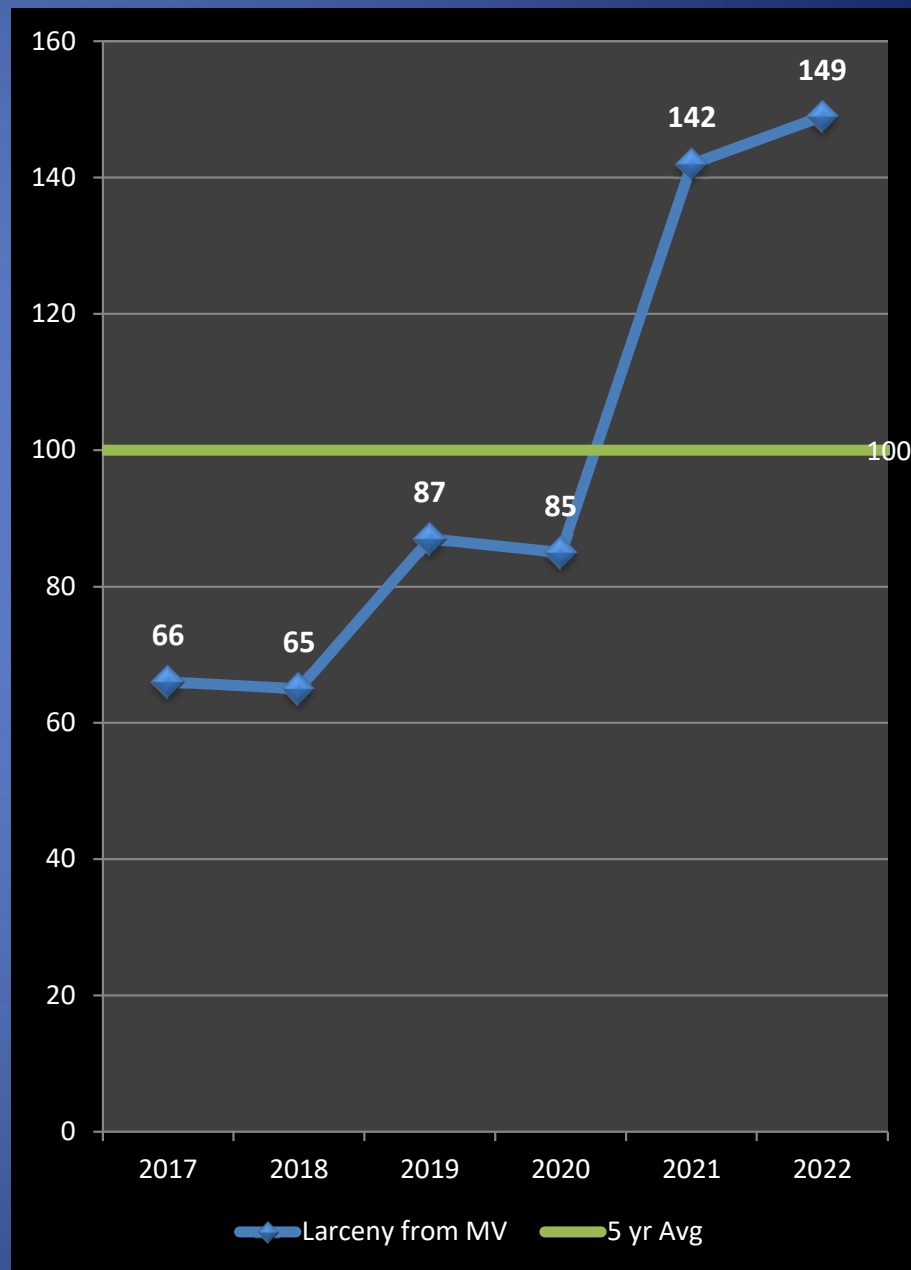
+3%

Previous Year

+5%

5-Year Average

+49%





The larceny from motor vehicle total through May 2nd, 2022, is 149 incidents, which is 5% above the total for the same time period in 2021. The 149 thefts from cars reported thus far in 2022 also indicates an increase of 49 crimes (+49%) above the number forecasted through the first 17 weeks of 2022.



LARCENY *from Person*

No Patterns

- Larcenies from the person in 2022 have increased by ten incidents compared to the same time period in 2021 and dropped by two incidents when compared to the five-year average of 37. Activity picked up in the last two months, as March saw a 150% increase over February and April saw a 40% increase over March.
- Nineteen of the 35 incidents this year have taken place in Central Square. Until March, there had not been a larceny from the person reported at all in Harvard Square. However, this business district now accounts for seven larcenies from the persons in 2022. The others took place throughout the city with only Porter Square registering more than one, with 3 total. The numbers citywide have been trending upward as COVID-related closures and restrictions have been lifted and people are out and about again.
- In recent years, higher numbers in Central Sq have mainly been due to grab-and-run situations or incidents that involved individuals who are unhoused whose property may have been stolen while they were asleep or otherwise distracted. In 2022, pocket-picking and unattended items have accounted for 13 of the 19 incidents in Central Square.

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

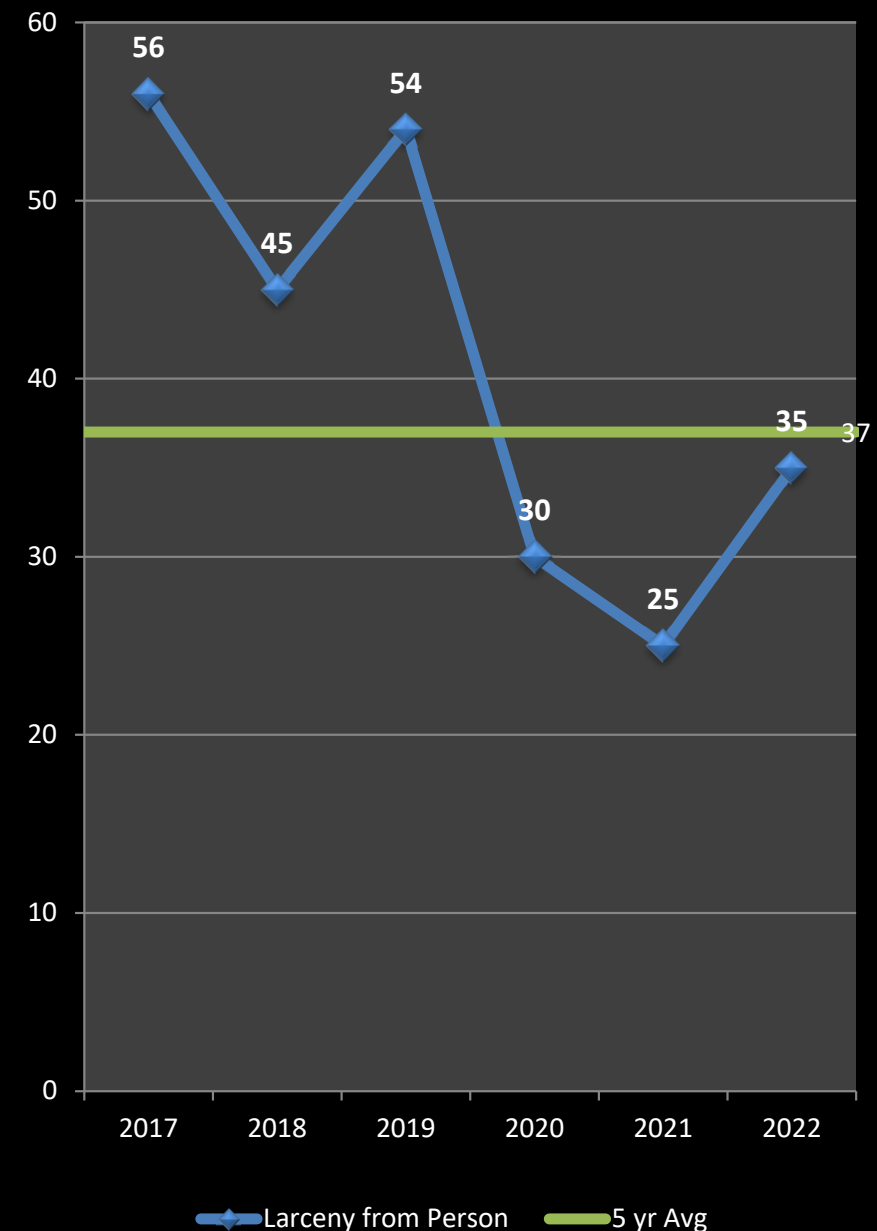
+40%

Previous Year

+40%

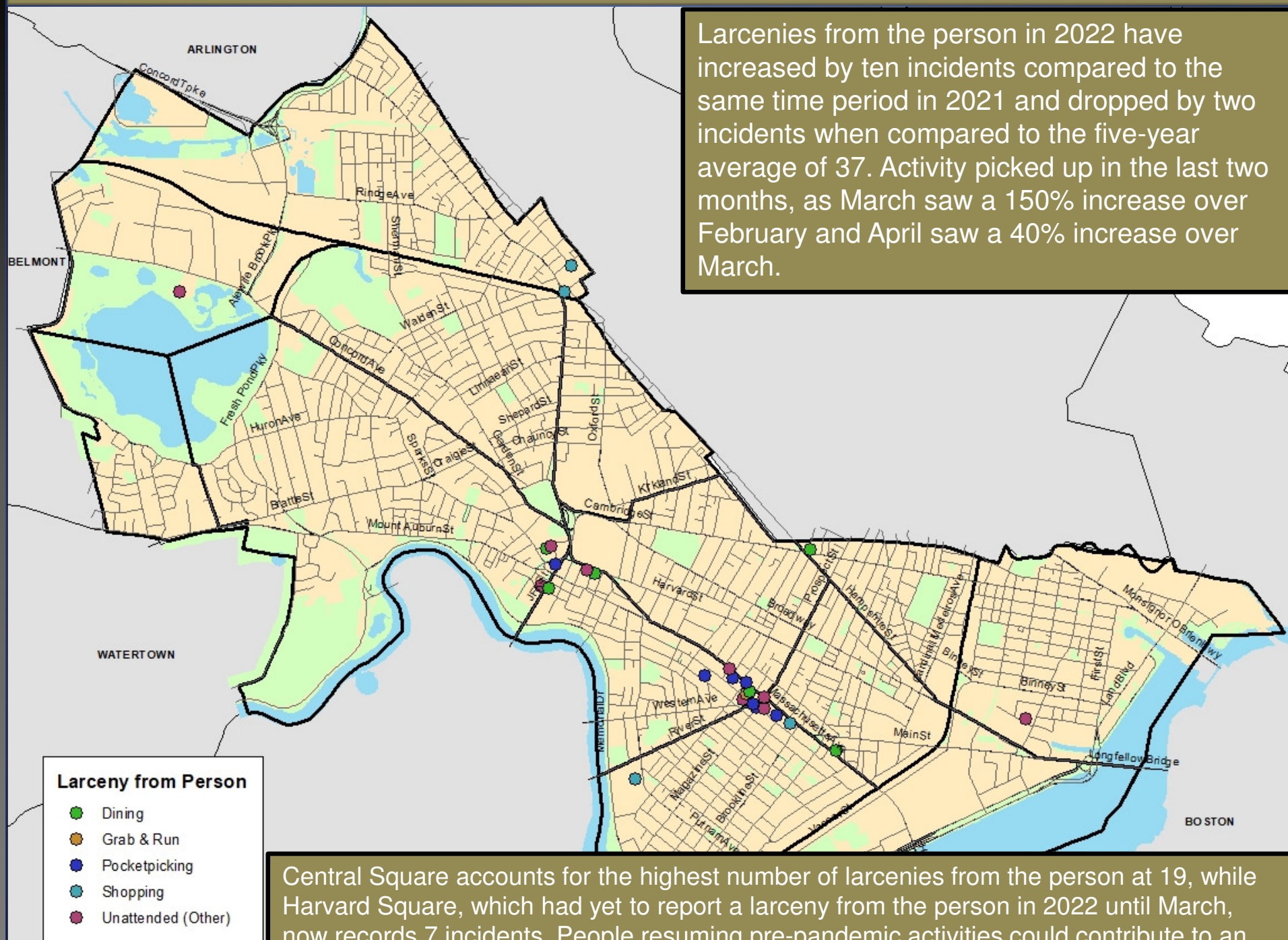
5-Year Average

-5%





Geographic Breakdown Larceny from Person: 1.1.22 – 5.2.22



Larcenies from the person in 2022 have increased by ten incidents compared to the same time period in 2021 and dropped by two incidents when compared to the five-year average of 37. Activity picked up in the last two months, as March saw a 150% increase over February and April saw a 40% increase over March.

Central Square accounts for the highest number of larcenies from the person at 19, while Harvard Square, which had yet to report a larceny from the person in 2022 until March, now records 7 incidents. People resuming pre-pandemic activities could contribute to an increase in larcenies from the person in 2022 compared to the last few years.

LARCENY of Bicycle

No Patterns

- Likely due at least in part to the colder weather and snow this year, 2022 has started off with a sharp decline in bike thefts. This has continued as only 82 thefts have been reported through May 2nd, 2022, leading to a significant 47% decrease below last year and a 15% decline below the 5-year average.
- April was up five incidents over March (+20%) with 30 thefts reported. This increase by month is expected to continue as the weather gradually improves.
- Unlike last year when nearly two-thirds of the bike thefts were reported in the lower half of the city, just over 50% (or 42 of the 82) of the thefts reported so far in 2022 have occurred north/west of Harvard Square.
- Of the 82 bike thefts reported year-to-date in 2022, 66 (80%) were reportedly locked at the time of the theft.

Top Neighborhoods for Bike Theft in 2022

Neighborhood	YTD Total	% Citywide
Peabody	14	17%
North Cambridge	13	16%
Cambridgeport	13	16%
East Cambridge	8	10%
Mid Cambridge	7	9%

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

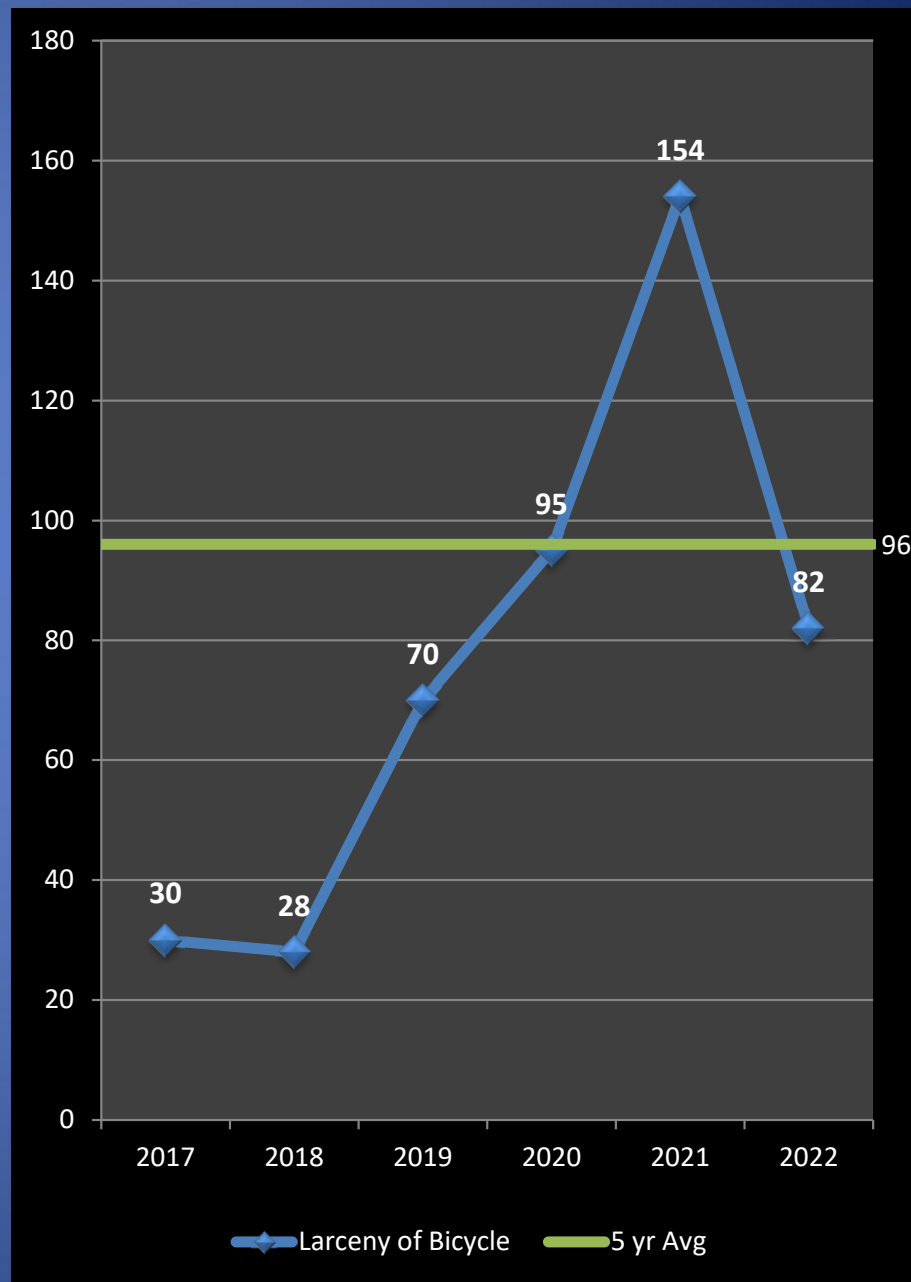
+20%

Previous Year

-47%

5-Year Average

-15%

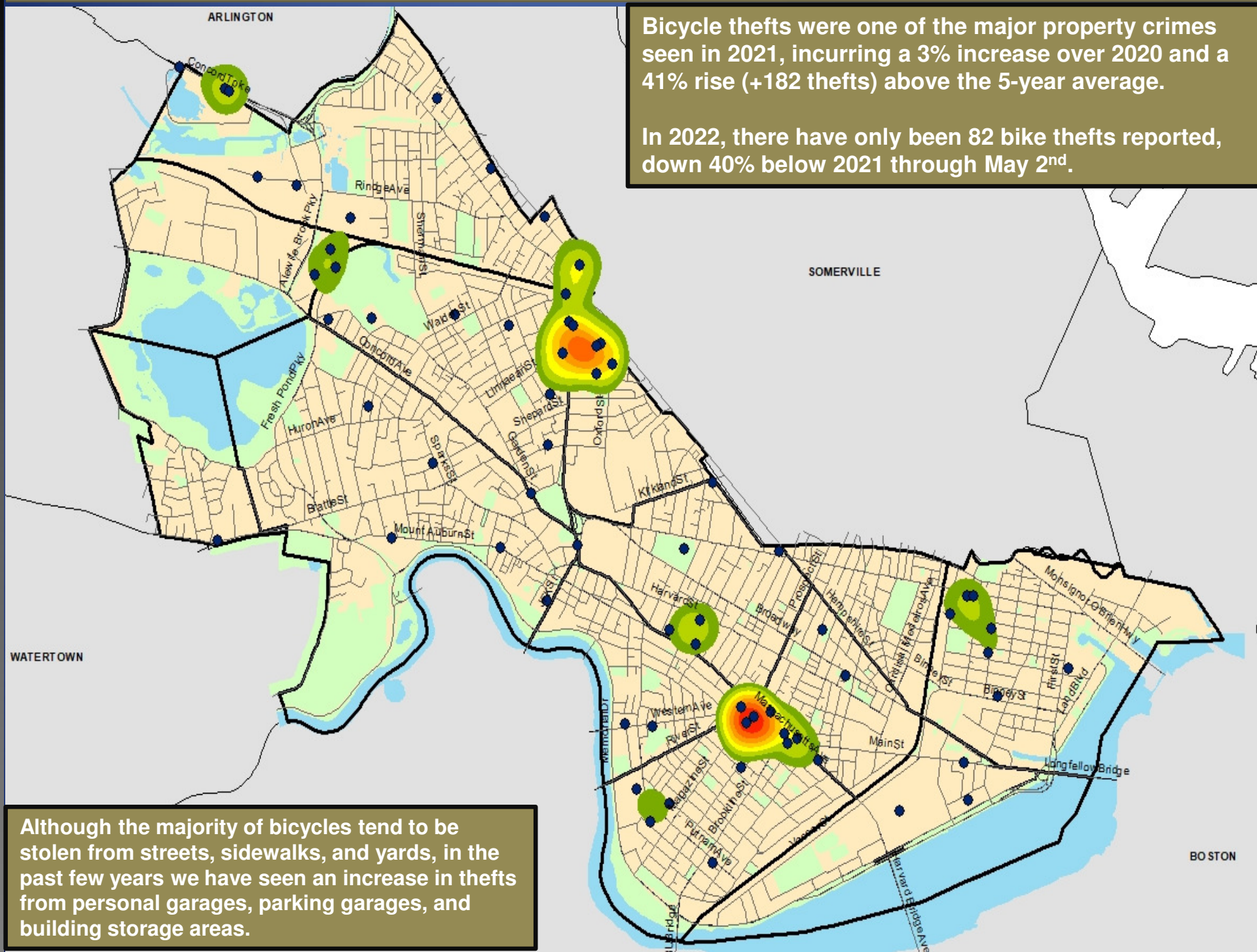




Geographic Breakdown of Larceny of Bicycles: 1.1.22 – 5.2.22

Bicycle thefts were one of the major property crimes seen in 2021, incurring a 3% increase over 2020 and a 41% rise (+182 thefts) above the 5-year average.

In 2022, there have only been 82 bike thefts reported, down 40% below 2021 through May 2nd.



Although the majority of bicycles tend to be stolen from streets, sidewalks, and yards, in the past few years we have seen an increase in thefts from personal garages, parking garages, and building storage areas.



AUTO THEFT

No Patterns

- The projected 5-year weighted average for auto thefts through May 2nd of 2022 is 25, and with 32 reported in 2022, we have experienced an increase of 28% over the expected total thus far this year. Auto thefts in 2022 are also up 23% over last year, with six additional incidents reported.
- When comparing the most recent four weeks (April) to the previous four weeks (March), auto thefts have increased by 3, with 8 reported in April.
- This year, there have been multiple thefts reported where the operator left the vehicle unlocked and running in order to deliver a package or grab food. When the victim returned, the vehicle was gone. Two juveniles were arrested in February, believed to be responsible for at least two such thefts out of Harvard Square.
- The neighborhood breakdown for auto theft totals thus far in 2022 is as follows: The Port – 9; Riverside, North Cambridge, Cambridgeport, East Cambridge – 4 each; West Cambridge – 3; Peabody – 2; and Inman/Harrington and Mid-Cambridge, each with 1.
- Eleven of the 32 vehicles reported stolen in 2022 have been recovered to date.

Percent Change

Last 4 Weeks

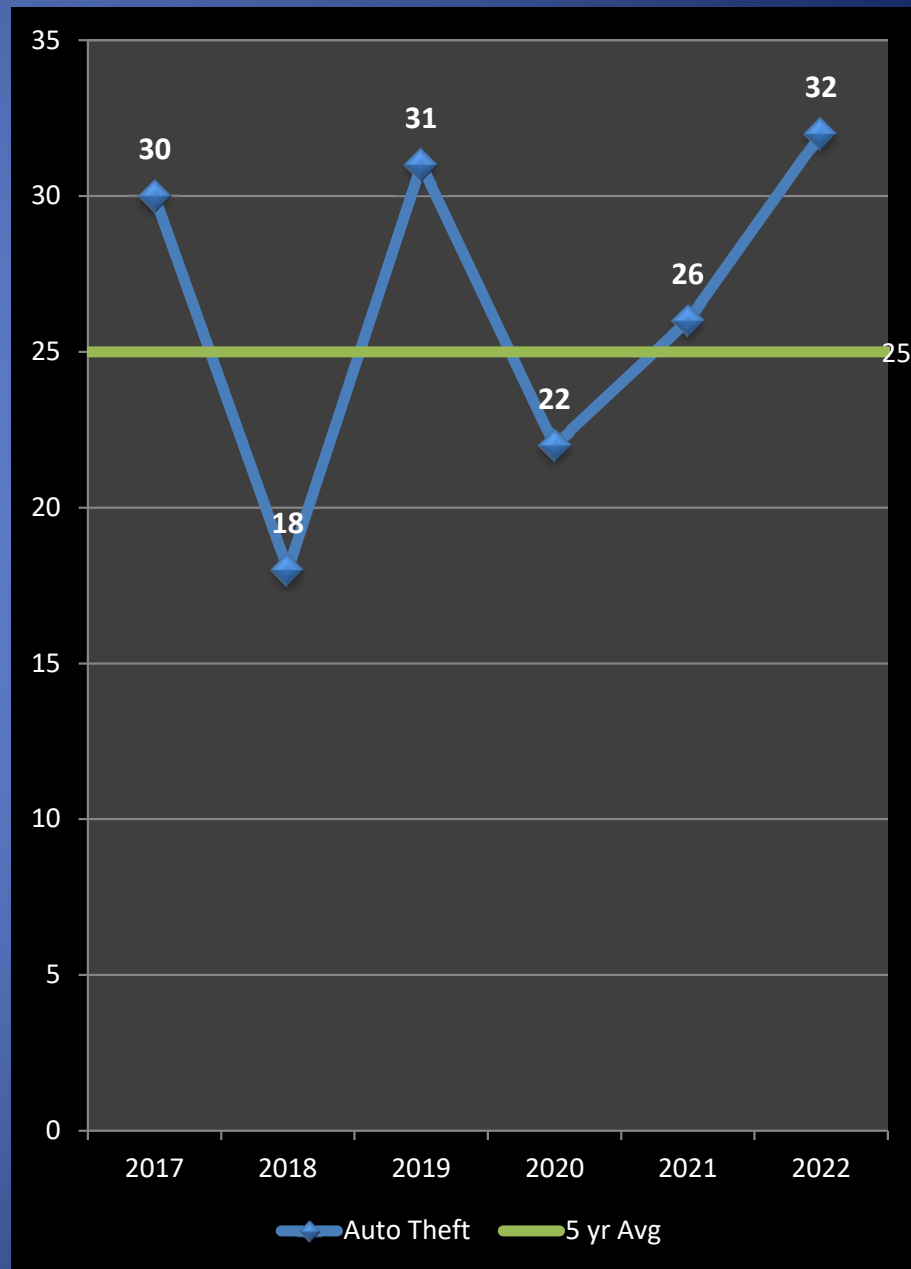
+60%

Previous Year

+23%

5-Year Average

+28%





Help Prevent Crime

And keep yourself informed!

To receive information from the CPD:

- Sign up with for the **Cambridge Alert Network**, to receive alerts about emerging crime patterns, neighborhood meetings, and crime prevention tips, by visiting www.CambridgeMa.gov/AlertNetwork.
- “Like” the Cambridge Police Department on Facebook at www.facebook.com/CambridgePolice
- Follow [@CambridgePolice](https://twitter.com/CambridgePolice) on Twitter.
- Visit our website at www.CambridgePolice.org for valuable information and reports including the Daily Log and BridgeStat, which is published on the first Friday of every month.
- Download our “MyPD” smartphone app at www.CambridgePolice.org/MyPD.

To Share Information with the CPD:

- Call our Non-Emergency Telephone Number at **617-349-3300**.
 - Every call for service generates a police response, so help drive our resources by reporting things that seem suspicious or out of the ordinary.
- Send an Anonymous TEXT-A-TIP:
 - Send an ANONYMOUS text message to **Tip411 (847411)**. Begin your message with Tip650 and then type your message. You will receive a response from the Cambridge Police with the option to continue communicating. Please remember that this is not a replacement for 9-1-1. **If you witness an emergency situation, please call 9-1-1 immediately.**
- Send an Anonymous Crime Tip E-Mail at www.CambridgePolice.org/Tips